

[Translation]

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Sir, this is a current problem. When I would ask a separate question for it ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHYAM BEHARI MISHRA : Hon. Minister is procrastinating the problems of farmers...*(Interruptions)* They are looting the country. People are not getting power...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is enough.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Enough is enough.

[Translation]

Question No.85.. Shri Ashok Pradhan.

(Interruptions)

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, power plants are lying closed for the last three years in Rajasthan...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This question pertains to power project and not to power distribution.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Yes. Q.No.85 -Mr. Minister.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, I have gone to the next question. We are on the next question now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister is the Prime Minister of the country and son of a farmer...*(Interruptions)* Hon. Prime Minister is son of the soil and son of a farmer...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You can not do like that. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Katheriaji, please take your seat. Vermaji please sit down.

[English]

You have done enough.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the total area of land acquired and percentage of family members of farmers given employment in the plants running there vis-a-vis total number of employees. I would like to raise the question about the total number of employees there.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, 1882 families were affected in first phase. It was 1,878 acre area of land belonging to six villages. In first phase, 692 acre area of land was acquired and 551 acre area of land was acquired in 1975-76. 1,186 acre area of land was acquired in second phase and out of it 883 acre land was acquired privately for displaced people. 537 displaced persons...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : The question is about the number of persons whose land have been acquired and number of employees working there. The number of affected persons given employment. You have stated that only 197 families have been given employment. Hon. Member wants to know the total number of persons working there and percentage of these 197 families vis-a-vis total number of persons working there. He is not interested in acres.

[English]

SHRI P.J. KURIEN : Sir, how could you allow her?

MR. SPEAKER : It is not a question. It is a clarification. All right, I accept it.

[Translation]

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : I am telling about the number of families given land but please listen to me ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : I would like to know the number of families whose land has been acquired?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : The number of families whose land has been acquired and number of people given employment?

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : I have asked the total number of employees working there...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think, you have clarified very sufficiently.

Narora Atomic Plant

*85. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the date of setting up of Narora Atomic Power Plant;

(b) whether any assurance for employment on priority basis to the displaced persons and proper development of the area were given by the Union Government/Narora Atomic Power Plant at the time of setting-up of this power plant;

(c) if so, the number of affected families which have been given employment so far and details of the development works undertaken in this area alongwith the amount spent thereon during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide employment to the affected families and for the proper development of the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Work on the Narora Atomic Power Project commenced in the year 1977.

(b) Preference in the matter of employment of eligible members of displaced families was assured. No assurance for development of the area at the cost of the project was given by the Government.

(c) 197 members of the affected families have been provided employment so far.

(d) and (e). Vacancies in the plant as and when they arise are notified to the village panchayats to facilitate preference being given in the matter of appointment to the displaced persons. Area Development around the plant is a function of the local Government.

[Translation]

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : As regards his question, it has been mentioned in the written reply that the employment has been provided to 197 persons and the total number of employees in the plant is 1634 ... (Interruptions) If you ask a clear question, I will reply to it.

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Please tell their percentage.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : 197 out of 1634 roughly comes to 18 per cent... (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : It seems that he is weak in Maths... (Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Sir, he has not understood the question.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : I have understood the entire question but you are not understanding the reply ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Sir, he has not understood the question properly.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : I have understood the question correctly... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I think, he has understood the question but you are not allowing him to answer.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : My second question is that the pollution which is prevailing there ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Some people who were affected, have been given employment and others are being given land... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Pollution has spread there to a great extent and the farmers of that area are also bearing that pollution. In spite of that, power is not being made available to those farmers. The farmers of that area are in dire need of power. They remain without power for five to six days and as a result thereof, the crops of farmers are drying up. What action is being taken by the Government in this regard?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Regional development is not the responsibility of Project Authority. However, what the hon'ble Member has said... (Interruptions)

SHRI SHYAM BEHARI MISHRA : He is asking a question on environment... (Interruptions)

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : I am coming to environment. Please let me speak. If you are not ready to listen to Government's reply, it is your wish ... (Interruptions) I would like to tell the hon'ble Member that if there is a power problem at regional level, I will certainly ask the Project Authority to resolve the problem in consultation with the regional people including the hon'ble Members. Though, this is the responsibility of the regional Authority, yet I will ask them to help, keeping in view the feelings of the hon'ble Members ... (Interruptions) The Project Authority is looking after many works. It is providing facilities in the hospitals ... (Interruptions)

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : Are you giving an assurance?... (Interruptions)

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Of course, I am giving this assurance... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister is giving an assurance. Why do you not listen to it carefully?

[Translation]

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : In how many days this assurance will be fulfilled?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : I am giving this assurance. I want to be clear. It is the responsibility of the regional Authority to provide power and water there ... (Interruptions) Please listen to me. If you do not want to listen, it is your wish... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you can sit down. You do not have to give an answer when they do not want an answer.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question has not been replied to completely...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You are asking a question, but you are not listening to the answer. You have no right at all. Shri Joshi, you can ask the question.

[Translation]

You do not give him a chance to reply, then how can he reply properly?...*(Interruptions)*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question relates to Atomic energy. My submission is, whether it is correct that...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the way. You are asking a question, but the Minister is not being allowed to give the reply. What is this? The Minister will not reply now. He will not reply and this is my ruling.

[Translation]

First, you sit down.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : You can pull up any Member...*(Interruptions)* This is not the way...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You please sit down. You should show your discipline first. You do not have to come to his rescue. It is my duty to protect him. You sit down now.

You sit down and keep quiet first. You cannot dictate to the Chair. This is not the way.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You can request in a decent manner.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Again you are making noise. I have told you to keep quiet. I want silence first.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, Mr. Minister, you answer now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri K.D. Sultanpuri, you please sit down. Yes, Mr. Minister, now you can answer. Hon. Members may please listen to the hon. Minister.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : The two points that I would like to clarify are that I fully accept the sentiments of the hon. Member. As I said, the responsibility for giving facilities is that of the local Government. But we will request the Project Authorities to sit with the local leaders and if there are areas in which they can help, they can do so as they are already doing in things like

medical facilities and so on. We would like the Project to be a part of the community.

As far as the whole question of pollution is concerned, the information that we have is that there is no pollution in NAPS beyond any acceptable limits. In fact, it is less than 20 per cent of the limits set by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has promised to direct the Project Authorities to sit with the local authorities and sort out the problem. What else can he say?

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, though my question is a little bit different but it relates to atomic energy. Today, all Atomic Power Stations are being closed down all over the country. Similarly, Kota Atomic Power Station in Rajasthan which was to generate 440 megawatt electricity could never generate electricity to its full capacity. This station has been lying closed for the last three years. At the time of its closure, it was assured that it would be restarted within three years but in spite of that, we have not got the new technology till now. I would like to ask from the hon'ble Minister that by when this Atomic Power Station will be re-started and the reasons for which it is not being started.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : First of all, I would like to make it clear to the hon'ble Member that our Atomic Power Projects are functioning well. So far as Kota Atomic Power Station of Rajasthan is concerned, I would like to state that the load factor of each plant was 60 per cent. It means that it is functioning at design load factor. The Atomic Power Plant of Rajasthan is 20-25 years old. Therefore, we have placed it under statutory repairs and it has been completed to a great extent. Since the plant is very much old, and its equipments will have to be replaced even then we would bring it into streamline and run it properly. It is worth thinking that it is for the first time in the Indian history that our all Atomic Power Projects, except Rajasthan Atomic Power Project, are under statutory repairs. These plants are on design load factor at present. Therefore, we want to promote the technology further in the Ninth Five year plan because now we have mastered the nuclear power technology and our plants are running on load factor. The hon'ble Prime Minister had convened a meeting in this regard. We are preparing a new nuclear power programme and its strategy would appear in the Approach Paper of our five year plan. The Atomic power plant of Rajasthan would start functioning in 1997-98 after being fully refurbished and we hope that we would be able to run it very well...*(Interruptions)*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : This project will start in 6 years.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Joshi, please listen to me. Mr. Minister, I fully appreciate the sentiments and views

expressed by the hon. Members here. It has been my personal experience as a Minister for long years that whenever projects are taken up, people are displaced and they are given assurances. Some agreements are entered into and we forget about them. People suffer. I would like the Government to ensure that not only in this case but in many other cases whatever assurances have been given to the people must be fulfilled.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : I would just take a minute.

MR. SPEAKER : It is enough.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : I would just take one second on this. I take your observation very very seriously. I want to assure you that this Government has, very seriously, the agenda of implementing a National Rehabilitation Policy which we are going to bring up in the Chief Ministers' and the State Minister's Conference.

[Translation]

Water Supply to Villages

*86. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to hand over the functioning and maintenance of water supply sources to village panchayats;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the time by which the decision is likely to be effective?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) :
(a) The Empowered Committee of the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission consisting of representatives of all State/UT Government and of the Government of India has recommended that the operation and maintenance of rural drinking water facilities should be the responsibility of Panchayats.

(b) The States/UTs are evolving their own systems for operation and maintenance involving the Panchayat Raj Institutions.

(c) No time limit has been recommended.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir whenever any question is put up relating to public problems, be it a question of poverty alleviation or power supply, an irresponsible reply is given by the

Government. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to you that you have given your ruling just now keeping in view the sentiments of this House and I hope that this Government will abide by your directions. We should not be compelled to approach the committee on Government Assurances again for non fulfilment of the assurance. Similarly, the problem of drinking water in rural areas of this country...

MR. SPEAKER : Do you want to ask a question?

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : That was only the background. I have yet to ask question. You have made me to cut short the background. Sir, the hon'ble Minister has given a casual reply in regard to the problem of drinking water. I do not think that the Government is concerned over it. As per the survey conducted on 1-4-94 in the country, 24113 main villages and 1,16,862 other villages were deprived of the facility of pure drinking water. As per the data published by the Government in 1995-96, 59736 villages will remain deprived of this facility. The villagers of these villages will not get pure drinking water. In the end of the reply to the question, you have stated that no recommendation has been made for fixing any-time limit. We are going to complete fifty years of our independence, yet Government is not aware of the time limit. My question is, how much amount has been given to state Government especially, to the Government of Uttar Pradesh under the scheme meant for resolving the problem of drinking water?

MR. SPEAKER : Do you want to ask another question also?

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : I have asked only the first question.

MR. SPEAKER : You were talking of time. Please see the time.

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, drinking water is the top most priority of the United Front Government. This United Front Government came into power in the month of June. This Government is not responsible for the solution of the problem. That is why, in our Common Minimum Programme, under our basic minimum services, drinking water is the top most item. We want to cover all villages by 2000 A.D. By 1997-98, this Government is to complete all not covered villages including the partially covered ones also which get between one to ten litres per day. That is our plan of action. Basing on that we request the State Governments to say that we want to cover all the not covered villages and partially covered villages by the next two years and we are basing our action plan on that level. We are spending ten per cent of the total earmarked Budget on the operation, maintenance and everything under ARWS. Under the MNP also, the State Governments are spending ten per cent of the money. It means that twenty per cent of money available for the district is